

Rockwell, Norman  
(Artist)

Drawer 19A

Artists-R

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# Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Norman Rockwell

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



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Rockwell,  
Norman



That One Po  
3/1/71







Chicago Tribune Magazine (Supplement) Sept. 7, 1975

A 19-by-34-inch reproduction of the Norman Rockwell painting on the cover of today's Magazine is available. The reproductions, suitable for framing (overall dimensions: 23 by 38 inches), cost \$7.50 each. To order, send your check or money order to Jack O'Grady Communications Inc., 333 N. Michigan Av., Chicago 60601. Allow four weeks for delivery.







# Lincoln Society of Philately

PUBLISHERS OF  
THE LINCOLN LOG

OFFICE OF THE

Mrs. H. M. Hildebrandt

14300 Detroit Ave., #423

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

May 12, 1976

Mark E. Neely, Jr., Editor  
The Lincoln National Life Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

Dear Mr. Neely:

Enclosed you will find a few new Post Cards depicting a Norman Rockwell painting of President Abraham Lincoln, at the age of 22. The life size original hangs in the lobby of the Lincoln Building, Spokane, Washington.

Norman Rockwell wrote, "I hope this painting of Lincoln might inspire the youth of our country to appreciate this man who believed so much in the value of education.

I want you to know that Lincoln Life Foundation under the direction of Dr. Gerald McMurtry had assisted me on many occasions while I was Cachet Chairman of the Lincoln Society of Philately and this is a small way I can replace the many folders that were given to our Society. We are grateful.

We appreciate the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company for all the courtesies given to all Lincoln Collectors, especially the LINCOLN LORE.

Sincerely,

*Gonnie Hildebrandt*  
Mrs. H. M. Hildebrandt



STOCKBRIDGE  
MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. Donald P. Lindsay, President  
Lincoln First Federal Savings & Loan Association  
West 818 Riverside Avenue  
Spokane, Washington

Dear Mr. Lindsay:

My favorite American is Abraham Lincoln.

I have painted a number of pictures of him and always with great pleasure. He was no "pretty man" but I feel everything about him personified the strength, integrity and spirit of America.

As you know, he was born February 12, 1809 near Hodgenville, Kentucky. I painted this picture of him with the thought that it was at about this time in his life, age 22, that he lived in New Salem, Ill., on the Sangamon River bank.

Fortunately, about the time I started the picture I had to go to Champaign, Illinois not far from New Salem. My wife, Molly, and I drove there and, with the help of a real Lincoln expert, saw this town beautifully restored to the time of Lincoln's residence there.

It was there he was the "rail-splitter" and vociferously devoured every book he could get his hands on. Then he left for Springfield to become a lawyer and a legislator, and on to great things.

I hope this painting of Lincoln might inspire the youth of our country to appreciate this man who believed so much in the value of education.

Cordially yours,

*Norman  
Rockwell*







**ABRAHAM LINCOLN, AGE 22  
BY NORMAN ROCKWELL**

The life-size original painting depicted here hangs in the lobby of the Lincoln Building, Spokane. Norman Rockwell wrote, "I hope this painting of Lincoln might inspire the youth of our country to appreciate this man who believed so much in the value of education."

Litho-Art Printers, Inc., Spokane, Washington

September 17, 1979

Mr. Mark Neely  
Director of Lincoln Library  
and Museum  
Lincoln National Life Insurance Company  
1301 South Harrison Street  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

Dear Mark:

Attached are the photographs of the Norman Rockwell prints and original charcoal drawing. I hope you might be interested in them for the Lincoln Museum.

The "Young Lincoln" print was a signed edition of 285. It is 24 x 38-1/2 framed, and is accompanied by a signed letter from Norman Rockwell stating his feelings about Lincoln as an important American. The price of this print is \$9,300.

The second limited edition print, "Lincoln for the Defense," is one of 275 originally made and is signed by the artist. It is 21 x 36 framed, and is for sale at \$10,000.

The original charcoal drawing is titled "Lincoln the Lawyer." It is by Norman Rockwell and this can be authenticated. It is 28 x 48 and priced at \$60,000.

Mark, if you have any interest, call. If you don't have any interest, please return the photographs. I promised I'd return them. Incidentally, though this may be a sales ploy, I'm told there are buyers in both California and New York who are interested and I was told "don't sit on this."

The original charcoal drawing is in New York right now and the two prints are in Vermont. They can be shipped out here for viewing and approval with a deposit.

I'll expect to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

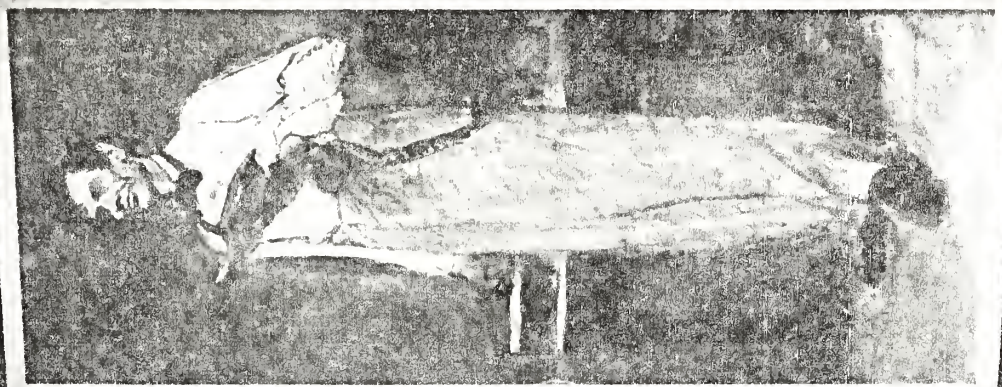


Richard E. Bonsib

mkh  
enclosures







"LINCOLN FOR THE DEFENSE"



"THE GO LINCOLN"







# Weekend Guide

## Museum features 'best collection' of Norman Rockwell work in state

By SHARON LITTLE  
Of The News-Sentinel

**M**argaret and Lloyd Bridges want their home to be a haven for new and old friends. So it's natural to find reflections there of one of their dearest friends, the late artist-illustrator Norman Rockwell.

Their affection goes back about 10 years when they saw one of his illustrations in a gallery and thought it "just right" for them. Entitled "The Runaway," it showed a lad of about eight sitting on a lunch counter stool next to a police officer. "The boy reminded us of our youngest son Robert so much. We tried to buy it but it was sold." So, they did what any self-respecting, self-proclaimed "gallery-hoppers" do: "we started looking."

The story was to have a happy ending, or beginning, as they eventually found one of the 200 "Runaway" illustrations in San Francisco.

Their inability to say "no" to gallery owners they've met around the country has resulted in their "knee-deep collection" of 30 Rockwell illustrations — comprising what the couple has been told is "the best collection" of signed and numbered Rockwell illustrations in Indiana.

Twenty-five of their treasures will be shared with visitors to the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, 1202 W. Wayne, in an exhibition opening Friday and continuing through Oct. 31 in conjunction with an exhibition of American Master Print-makers.

### Original oils never sold

Rockwell illustrations continue to grow in value. A spokesperson at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass., said the limited editions range in price from \$750 to \$12,000, depending entirely on what a print is and what the demand for it is. However, would-be thieves would find little value for their troubles without the papers of authenticity which the Bridges keep tucked away in a bank. Rockwell never sold his original oils. But from each original, he allowed 200 lithographs to be made which he personally inspected.

Bridges explained, "You don't have to be an art critic or trained student of the arts to enjoy him. He touches everybody. Everyone who visits us enjoys them, sees something different in them." Adds Margaret Bridges, "The children who come here especially love Rockwell."

Bridges decorated her living and dining rooms to coincide with the mahogany-burgundy colors she first spotted in another of their illustrations, "The Doctor and the Doll." And she remembered her childhood days and reading the "Saturday Evening Post" magazine whose covers carried Rockwell illustrations for some 53 years.

### The artist and the man

"Lloyd and I both fell in love with the artist as a man. We read a great deal about him and suddenly the man and the work became one and the same. He's so friendly, warm and human. The story is told that in school it was impressed upon him that as an illustrator he must walk through the frame and become part of the painting. This comes through."

The Bridges remain so enamored of Rockwell that they make an "annual pilgrimage" to Stockbridge where the museum houses many Rockwell works. They also discovered, although Rockwell died in 1978, the family remains active in the



Photo: John Stearns/The News-Sentinel

Margaret Bridges believes the 30 Norman Rockwell illustrations she and her husband, Lloyd, have collected in the past 10 years are considered the "best" in Indiana. Among those are, from left, "The Doctor and Doll," "The Runaway," one of several illustrations from a "Tom Sawyer" portfolio and "Abraham Lincoln." They will be exhibited at the Fort Wayne Art Museum during October.

community that showcases Rockwell's art in its museum.

Although the Bridges never met Rockwell, they've talked with Rockwell experts and colleagues who say "he was very accessible, but not outgoing. He was a very private person. He liked people but didn't like big affairs or to appear in public. He wouldn't be on TV, yet if the guy next door came over for a loaf of bread, he'd want him to stay all morning." Of his work, "he said he didn't paint everything exactly as he saw it but 'as I would like it to be,' and he never dealt with anything that was sordid or unhappy even when he took on controversial subjects." The latter included racial desegregation and the United Nations, illustrations which were "always optimistic, with something funny or pleasant about them," according to Bridges.

### The young Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln was one of Rockwell's heroes. The Bridges' collection includes a por-

trait of a young, tall, studious Lincoln. Rockwell was concerned that youngsters "always saw Lincoln as old, tired, worried; he wanted them to see him working hard and learning."

But most of all, the Bridges remain proud of the man and what he represents.

"I think he makes everybody feel as though everything is right with the world, and I think that's why I was so interested in him," says Bridges. She enjoys the story told of Rockwell's respect for Picasso and the fact "he often quoted him." When someone once asked the illustrator which was his favorite work, he responded with Picasso's words: "Always the next one you're going to paint."

The opening reception, 7-9 p.m. Friday at the museum, 1202 W. Wayne St., is open to the public. Regular museum hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.



VanHorn, Cindy

---

From: Marshall S [stoltzmarsh@snip.net]  
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2001 1:10 PM  
To: cjvanhorn@LNC.com  
Subject: Re: Internet Feedback Form info:

REPLY: Thank you for your request and your interest in Norman Rockwell art. We do have in stock the print image your customer requested, "Lincoln The Woodcutter". This retired, hard to find print is in short supply, but we have it available at this time for shipping. The cost is \$30.00 + S&H. Also available is the retired image of "Lincoln For The Defense". The cost is also \$30.00. Your customer may call our office at #215-969-5619. We do ship within 24-48 hours.

Thank you for thinking of us. It is always a pleasure to assist you and your customers.

Have a great day!

The Rockwell Gallery Collection [Eileen]

----- Original Message -----

From: <cjvanhorn@LNC.com>  
To: <stoltzmarsh@snip.net>  
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2001 11:07 AM  
Subject: Internet Feedback Form

>  
>  
>  
> The following feedback was submitted through your web site:  
>  
> Name Cindy VanHorn  
> Address The Lincoln Museum  
> City Fort Wayne  
> State IN  
> Country USA  
> Phone 219-455-5590  
> Email cjvanhorn@LNC.com  
> Comments We have a Rockwell print in our exhibit which shows a young Lincoln walking and reading a book in his left hand while carrying an ax in his right hand. One of our patrons would like to know where she can get one of these herself. Can you give me any suggestions on where she can find one? Thank you very much.  
>  
>  
>

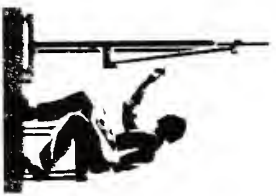




## The Rockwell Gallery Collection

P O. Box 126  
Huntingdon Valley, PA  
19006

(215) 969-5619  
FAX: (215) 969-6466  
www.rockwellcenter.com



Norman Rockwell and  
Museum Curator Marshall L. Stoltz



# Norman Rockwell



© CPC

**"I showed the America  
I knew and observed  
to others who might  
not have  
noticed."**



Experience it  
at the Curtis  
Center Museum  
of NORMAN ROCKWELL Art

## The art of Norman Rockwell

*Norman Rockwell* is far more than a fine artist. He is the chronicler of the heart and soul, strength and greatness of America. In his thousands of works of art he created a visual history that immortalized the everyday lives of his fellow countrymen and women.

Because his work appeared primarily in magazines, Rockwell was at first considered a "commercial" illustrator. Before his death in 1978 he had gained the recognition he deserved as a fine artist. In 1969 he was named "Artist of the Year" by the Artists Guild of New York. And in 1976 he was awarded the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest decoration for civilian Americans.

Rockwell's masterful style of finely drawn, clear realism is unrivaled in its extraordinary wealth of anecdotal detail. Look at a Rockwell work a second, third or fourth time and you'll be enchanted by details you never noticed before.

Reproduced more often than Michelangelo, Picasso and Rembrandt put together, Rockwell's unique brilliance was his talent for communicating with people of all ages. With honesty. Compassion. Insight. Humor. Faith. And optimism.

## Our Rockwell Collection... a pictorial journal of America

The Curtis Center Museum of Norman Rockwell Art houses the largest and most complete collection of work by Norman Rockwell.

You'll be charmed by the innocent simplicity of life, the gentleness of America between the first and second world wars. Inspired and moved by the strength, determination, and courage of Americans during World War II. Thrilled to see the changing face of post-war America... the exploration of space, the civil rights movement, and the national love affair with newfangled inventions like television. And saddened by our national tragedies.

It is the panorama of 20th Century America, brought to life through Norman Rockwell's eyes.

The Museum contains:

- The only complete collection of the 324 original Rockwell Saturday Evening Post Covers
- Rockwell covers for other Curtis magazines
- A replica of Norman Rockwell's studio
- Original advertising and movie posters
- Lithographs, collotypes, prints and sketches
- The beloved Rockwell Boy Scout Art presentation
- A unique video
- Rockwell memorabilia and family photographs
- And much, much more



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# A MUSEUM INSIDE AN ARCHITECTURAL LANDMARK

THE MUSEUM is housed in a building that Rockwell knew well...The Curtis Center (the original Curtis Publishing Company headquarters). It was to this building the 22-year old Rockwell came in 1916, carrying a painting he hoped to sell to The Saturday Evening Post. They paid him \$75 and used the art as the first of the 324 covers that became one of the most beloved and famous features of The Saturday Evening Post.

Built by Cyrus Curtis in stages between 1901 and 1921, at a cost of 3 million dollars, The Curtis Center housed the Ladies' Home Journal, Holiday, Jack & Jill and Parents magazines as well as The Saturday Evening Post. Many of the greatest journalists, writers and artists of their time walked these halls. The restored landmark building is a fitting home for a museum of Norman Rockwell's art.

The Curtis Center lobby contains the spectacular 15 by 49 foot Tiffany mosaic "The Dream Garden," recreating a Maxfield Parrish painting. It is the second largest Tiffany mosaic in the world, and was created by the Tiffany Studios in 1916 (the same year Rockwell sold his first cover to The Saturday Evening Post).



© CPC



TAKE HOME A NORMAN ROCKWELL TREASURE

**T**he Gift Shop of the Curtis Center Museum of NORMAN ROCKWELL Art is itself worth a visit.

There you'll find prints and posters of Rockwell's work, framed and unframed, in virtually every imaginable size.

There is also a large collection of limited edition porcelain collectibles...figurines, commemorative plates, plaques, mugs... many of them secondary market and not available elsewhere. You'll love the



large collection of gift items: art books, jigsaw puzzles, ties, snowballs, Christmas tree ornaments, stationery, collectible boxes and tins. For people who want just a small souvenir, there are many to choose from.

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Call 1-800-877-0163 and request your copy of our Mail Order Catalog. It's only \$3.50 and with it you will receive a coupon worth \$3.50 on your first order of \$20.00 or more. Collectors all over the country rely on it for the beautiful Rockwell prints and collectibles they can't find anywhere else.



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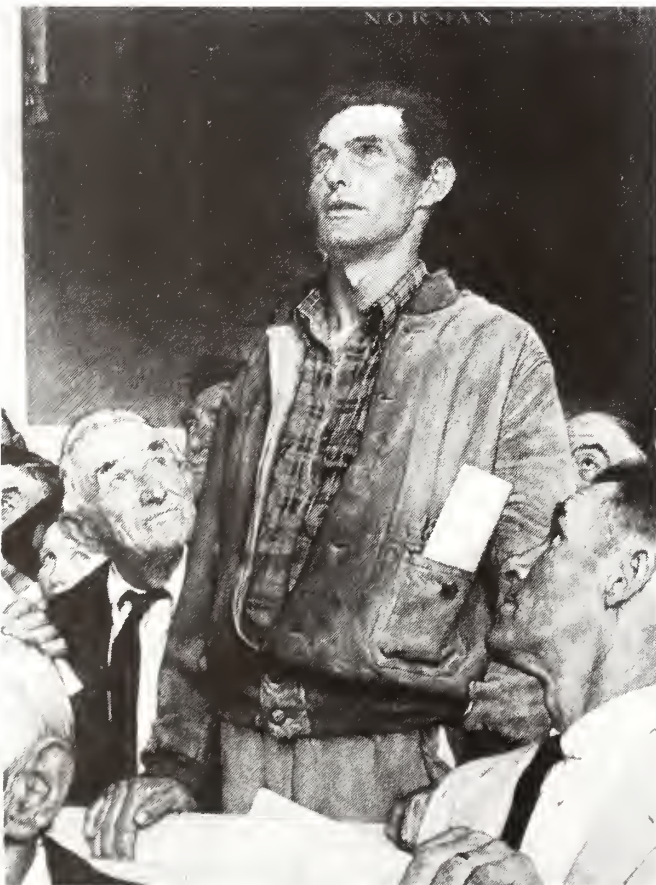
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[www.rockwellsite.com](http://www.rockwellsite.com)  
[stoltzmarsh@snip.net](mailto:stoltzmarsh@snip.net)



In Person

## **“Marshall Stoltz”**

**Curator, The Curtis Center Museum of Norman Rockwell Art**  
**Qualified - Recognized as the world's leading authority on Norman Rockwell.**

**Marshall is an author, professional speaker, museum curator,  
consultant, and dynamic talk show guest.**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

As a young boy scout, Marshall and his brother, Don, became interested in the works of Norman Rockwell, and as time has shown us, they devoted their lives to the works of this great talent. The collection they began as youths, soon became a collection well known to collectors around the world.

In 1971, the two brothers first met Norman Rockwell, giving further impetus to their collection. This first meeting led to a close working relationship and friendship between the two brothers and the famous artist. In 1976, Marshall and Don opened the now-famous Curtis Center Museum of Norman Rockwell Art in the old Curtis Publishing Building at Sixth and Walnut Streets in Philadelphia. In the same year, they published the first volume of a three-volume set of books entitled **NORMAN ROCKWELL AND THE SATURDAY EVENING POST**. The last two volumes were published in 1979. The three volumes were a quick sellout.

Marshall serves as the Curator of the Museum and travels extensively throughout the country talking to people about the subject he enjoys the most - Norman Rockwell. Each year his travels top over 100,000 miles.

Marshall was born in November of 1937. He has been a life long resident of the city of Philadelphia. He attended elementary and junior high school near his home in Philadelphia, and graduated from Central High School in 1956. Having majored in health, physical education and recreation and minored in the sciences. Marshall received his Bachelor of Science degree from Temple University in Philadelphia in 1960. Shortly thereafter, he received an in-service physical therapy degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



During his years at Temple, Marshall became active in the field of athletic training, and by his senior year, he rose to the position of head student-trainer.

After graduation from Penn, he started teaching primarily in the field of the sciences in the Haddon Heights (New Jersey) school system where he continued for sixteen years.

In his first year at Haddon Heights, Marshall became the first full-time athletic trainer in South Jersey, a position which he held for the duration of his teaching career. During this time, he also owned and operated the A.A.A. Trophies and Awards Company. Shortly thereafter he opened the Museum.

## BUTLER ACQUIRES NORMAN ROCKWELL MASTERPIECE

*Lincoln the Railsplitter* Unveiling February 16th

The Butler Institute of American Art has acquired a work by preeminent American illustrator and painter Norman Rockwell (1894-1978). The exquisite work of Americana will be unveiled at the Butler on February 16, 2007 at a special Trustees Circle member event to celebrate the acquisition. The event is by invitation. (For information on becoming a member of the Butler's Trustees Circle, call 330.743.1107, ext. 125.)

According to Butler Director Dr. Louis Zona, "If ever a painting belonged in the collection of the Butler Institute, this is the one. Painted by America's favorite artist, Norman Rockwell, this work depicts our country's most beloved president, Abraham Lincoln. Given the fact that the Butler is our country's first museum of American art, this masterpiece by one of the greatest of American artists is a most perfect addition."

Of this work Norman Rockwell wrote, "I hope this painting might inspire the youth of this land to appreciate this man who believed so much in the value of education."



Norman Rockwell, "Lincoln the Railsplitter," 1965. Photo by Louie Edmon, courtesy of the Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA. (Reproduced with permission from the Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA, IL.)

Titled *Lincoln the Railsplitter*, the 84.5 x 44.5 inch oil on canvas was painted in 1965 as a commission for an advertisement for Lincoln Bank of Spokane, Washington. Later, the work was a part of the art collection of well-known Texas entrepreneur Ross Perot. *Lincoln the Railsplitter*, which has not been shown publicly for many years, is the first work by Norman Rockwell to be included in the Butler's permanent collection, thus filling an important gap in the Institute's twentieth century historic survey. The painting was purchased with moneys from the Butler's acquisition fund, Draime Fund and through community gifts. *Lincoln the Railsplitter* was purchased by the Butler at a November, 2006 auction held at Christie's, New York City.

Rockwell, who created many works with the 16th President as subject, drew upon the description by Carl Sandburg (1878-1967) in that author's masterwork *Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years* as the artist created *Lincoln the Railsplitter*. The painting presents a young Abe near the time he and his family moved to Sangamon County in central Illinois. It was here that Lincoln took up the occupation of surveyor, preparing for the job as he would later prepare for his law career, by immersing himself in various text books. This painting depicts just such study, portraying the future president with an axe in one hand, and holding a surveyor's text book with the other. A railsplitter's tool is draped over Abe's shoulder, and the image of a newly constructed log cabin and freshly built split rail fence, with remnants of felled trees in close proximity are also in view.

*Lincoln the Railsplitter* will be on public view at the Butler beginning February 17th. The painting will be displayed within the Butler's permanent collection galleries, located on the museum's main floor. The work highlights the Butler's current exhibition of the Institute's renowned portrait collection (see page 3 of this publication).







Tuesday, January 30, 2007

## Ohio museum buys Lincoln painting

*Associated Press*

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The Butler Institute of American Art has paid \$1.6 million to acquire its first Norman Rockwell painting, "Lincoln the Railsplitter."

The painting was bought Nov. 30 in a sale at Christie's Auction House in New York, but the acquisition was announced only Sunday. The previous owner was Texas billionaire and former presidential candidate H. Ross Perot. The painting, which has not been shown in public for years, will be unveiled Feb. 16.

"When it arrived, I felt like Joseph Butler Jr. when 'Snap the Whip' arrived," said Louis Zona, director of the Butler, referring to the museum's founder and the famed painting by Winslow Homer. "Snap the Whip" has become the museum's signature piece.

"This is the biggest event in my 25 years at the Butler, in terms of adding to the collection," Zona said.

The painting was commissioned in 1962 and completed in 1965 for an advertisement by the Lincoln First Federal Savings and Loan of Spokane, Wash. It depicts a young Abraham Lincoln working as a land surveyor. In the painting, Lincoln carries an ax through a field while immersed in a book he's carrying in his other hand. A split-rail fence is in the background.

The Butler paid for the painting with money from its acquisition fund, and private and public gifts. Zona said an as-yet undetermined painting from the museum's holdings will be sold to help offset the purchase.

The Butler, dedicated in 1919, has more than 20,000 items, including works by Mary Cassatt, Edward Hopper, John James Audubon, Thomas Eakins, George Bellows and Robert Vonnoh.



Norman Rockwell's "Lincoln the Railsplitter" was acquired by the Butler Institute of American Art for \$1.6 million.

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This masterful Norman Rockwell poster is available only to Guild members through this special offer. We are certain that it will prove to be a most welcome and distinctive addition to your home—yours to keep even if you decide not to remain a member.





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THE BEARDSTOWN ALMANAC CASE  
LINCOLN THE LAWYER  
BY  
NORMAN ROCKWELL  
A PORTRAIT ON PORCELAIN

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The Beardstown Almanac Case was Lincoln's most famous criminal trial. His resourcefulness as an advocate was highly acclaimed as the result of a brilliant display of insight and intellect.

A fascinating series of events that could be traced to Lincoln's early days in New Salem, Illinois begin this tale. There he was befriended by Jack and Hannah Armstrong who gave him lodging in their humble cabin. A dozen years later, their friendship would be repaid through Lincoln's service to their son.

During the middle part of the last century religious camp meetings were common annual occurrences. Circuit-riding evangelists preached day and night. Some sinners, however, chose not to be saved. Bent on mischief, they hovered on the periphery of the camp and indulged in rowdyism and drinking.

In an attempt to protect those with more lofty aspirations, a statute prevented the sale of "ardent spirits" within a mile of the camp meetings. This resulted in the setting up of makeshift bars just outside the limit. On the night the crime in question was committed, there were three such establishments in operation.

It was Saturday, August twenty-ninth 1857 to be exact, a date that would become a pivotal point in the trial.

Among a group of rowdies looking for trouble was William "Duff" Armstrong, the twenty-four year old son of the now-widowed Hannah who had years before shared her home with the young Lincoln.

Two others were involved, James Norris and James Metzker. The latter, a quarrelsome individual, picked a fight with Armstrong and Norris. Norris was accused of having hit Metzker on the back of the head with a piece of wood and Armstrong with striking him in the eye with a "slung shot", a forerunner of the blackjack. The wounds were alleged to have been "mortal" and the cause of Metzker's death. After the altercation, however, Metzker was able to mount his horse and ride home, although he was reported to have fallen several times.

After his death, Norris and Armstrong were jointly indicted for murder in the Mason County Circuit Court. This is the point at which Mrs. Armstrong rode to Springfield to seek Lincoln's aid in defending her son.

At the time Lincoln was seeking nomination to the Senate. Losing what appeared to be an open and shut case could have been politically damaging, but he didn't allow that to interfere with his loyalty. He set out to get a change of venue for Armstrong.

Armstrong was remanded to Beardstown, the seat of Cass County and Norris went immediately to trial in Mason County. He was convicted of manslaughter, essentially on the testimony of an eye witness, Charles Allen, who told the court he had seen the defendant deliver the mortal blow. Norris was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary.

The prosecution would depend heavily on Allen's account in the forthcoming Armstrong trial. With one conviction to their credit the prospects looked bleak for Lincoln and his client.

From contemporary accounts, Allen was a "crafty and nimble" witness. Lincoln listened silently as he told, with great exactness and conviction, of seeing "Duff" Armstrong strike Metzker a fatal blow. He told the jury that he was standing 150 feet away at eleven o'clock and could see the altercation clearly by the light of the moon directly overhead.

According to records of the trial, held on May 7, 1858, Lincoln seemed almost casual in cross-examination. He adroitly led Allen to reiterate that he could not possibly be mistaken because of the brightness of the moon. He treated Allen with disarming courtesy and without antagonism. Then, suddenly and dramatically, Lincoln confronted the state's star witness with an 1857 almanac. Turning to the date and time of the incident, he showed that the moon was actually low in the sky and within an hour of setting. The prosecution's case crumbled with the evidence.



Ambyotype by A.M. Byers. Courtesy of the University of Nebraska. Love Library. Lincoln, Nebraska

Lincoln called two more witnesses. Nelson Watkins testified that the "slung shot" was his and in his possession on the night Armstrong was alleged to have used it. He had thrown it away the following day on the spot where it was found. Next, Lincoln called Charles Parker, a physician, to the stand. He told the court that, medically, the death blow could have well been dealt by one of Metzker's several falls from his horse. Lincoln's summation lasted an hour and was eloquent.



The porcelain portrait is six by twelve inches. Framed. It is eleven by seventeen. Issue price: \$175 U.S. , \$250 Canada Edition limit: 5,000





66 In preparation for the painting, Rockwell had done his homework well, probably taking his descriptions from John J. Duff's definitive *A. Lincoln, Prairie Lawyer* in which there is reference to the 'shapeless trousers'. And Beveridge's *Abraham Lincoln 1809-1858* in which he wrote that "...he rose with grave impressiveness, took off his coat and vest". Later Beveridge indicates that Lincoln loosened his tie and "... as he proceeded one of his suspenders, which were of knitted wool, fell from a shoulder, not noticing it, he let it hang throughout his speech 99.

Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry



Almanac pages from the collection of the Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He pleaded persuasively for the life of his widowed friend's son suggesting that if Allen's testimony had been so thoroughly in error on one critical point, there was reasonable doubt about the accuracy on other matters.

After only an hour's deliberation, the jury returned its verdict: Not Guilty. Armstrong was acquitted.

On the day of the trial, Lincoln was approached by a local photographer, A. M. Byers to sit for a portrait. Lincoln resisted, saying that his rumpled linen suit was unfit for a picture, but Byers persisted. The result was a now-famous 'ambrotype'.

According to the noted Lincoln scholar and River Shore advisor, R. Gerald McMurtry, this photograph, which was widely published, was most likely Rockwell's reference for his powerful painting.

Lincoln was a favorite Rockwell subject. He drew and painted him several times at various stages of his career. None of those works is more dramatic than this.

Rockwell chose a palette of high contrasts. The dark, muted background puts full focus on the primary subject and the low viewing position emphasizes Lincoln's height. Behind him, in shadow, is the manacled defendant.

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Two of America's most revered men are celebrated in this unique project. Norman Rockwell, the nation's best-loved artist has captured the strength and determination of one of our country's great heroes, Abraham Lincoln.

The painting that inspired the framed, porcelain portrait depicts Lincoln at trial in his most famous criminal defense.

The Beardstown Almanac Case is a classic in the annals of legal history. Rockwell respected its importance with painstaking attention to details as minor as the tie and suspenders Lincoln was wearing on the day of the trial.

The research for this project, begun more than a year ago, affirms Rockwell's accuracy. He was as thorough in preparation as he was extraordinary in his execution of the painting. It was not, incidentally, his only portrait of Lincoln who was one of his favorite Americans. It is, however, one of historic importance as the fascinating story of the trial and the painting attest.



Arch W. Patterson  
River Shore, Ltd.



Charcoal Study, Courtesy of Goldman Art,  
Los Angeles, CA



## ***River Shore, Ltd., A Quest for Excellence***

In a world where "good enough" has become the rule, we have endeavored to be an exception.

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We are particularly pleased that curators of unquestioned authority agree. Our Rockwell editions have been honored by inclusion in The Norman Rockwell Museum and The Chicago Historical Society; our Frederic Remington Collection occupies a place of honor in the Remington Art Museum. The endorsement of our 'American Gothic' limited editions by the Grant Wood estate echoes and underscores our earlier honors.

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C. Richard Spiegel  
*President*



Arch W. Patterson  
*Vice President*



***River Shore, Ltd.®***

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file - Statuettes 23  
**MILTON SELTZER**

multiple *Norman Rockwell Designs, Inc.*  
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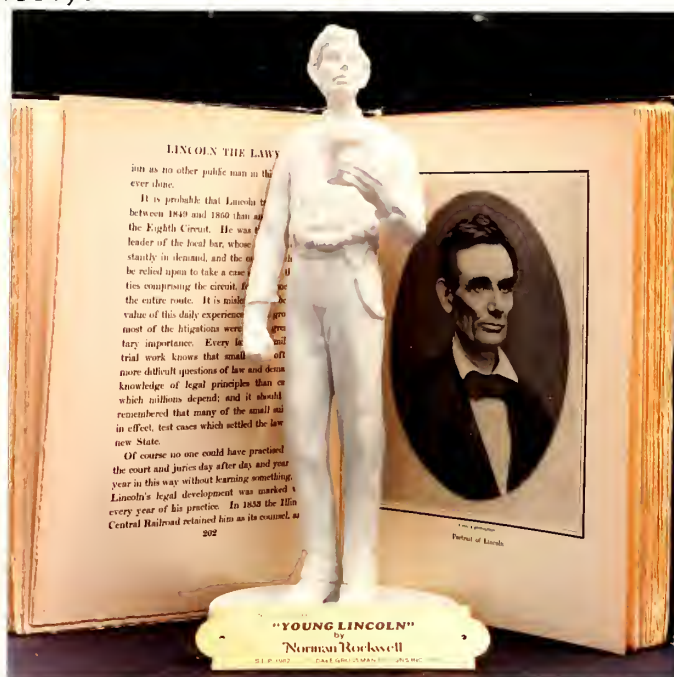


### Lincoln for the Defense

Rockwell's dramatic portrait of Lincoln, the lawyer, makes a wonderful addition to an attorney's office or just about anyplace else. Lincoln is pictured here with fist clenched and face full of conviction as he makes an argument for the defense.

Dear Friend of Abraham Lincoln,

Recently the legal profession celebrated Abraham Lincoln's career as a country lawyer. Young Lincoln as a "rolled-up sleeves" attorney was immortalized by Norman Rockwell in a beautiful lithograph (see illustration, the original oil painting is owned by H. Ross Perot).



The Grossman Designs, Inc. developed an Art-stone statue (9½" high) of this dramatic work of Lincoln defending "Duff" Armstrong in a manslaughter trial. "Duff", you may remember, was the son of Jack Armstrong, Abe's old wrestling adversary. It is alleged Lincoln used an almanac to refute a witness concerning the visibility on the evening of the crime.

Would you like to own this finely detailed white stone-like sculpture? It will sit nicely in your library or den close to your books and memorabilia.

It can be yours for the bargain price of \$17.95 (which includes shipping and handling. Please make the check out to MILTON SELTZER, address the shipping label and use the reply envelope. By now you may have guessed that I am not a dealer. I am just a Lincoln collector and buff who is proud to share this "find" with fellow Lincoln enthusiasts. I know you will be pleased with this elegant tribute to Abraham Lincoln.

Thank you, *Milton Seltzer*  
Milton Seltzer





Rockwell, Norman  
(Artist)

Drawer 19A

Artists-R

